REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Claims 26, 27 and 29-39 are pending in the application. By this Amendment, claims 28 and 40-50 are canceled and claims 26, 29, 32 and 33 are amended. Reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejections in view of the foregoing amendments and the following remarks is respectfully requested.

I. <u>RESTRICTION REQUIREMENT</u>

The Office Action asserts a Restriction Requirement between Group I, Claims 26-39 and Group II, Claims 40-50. Applicant hereby confirms election of Group I, Claims 26-39. By this Amendment, non-elected claims 40-50 have been canceled.

II. ALLOWABLE SUBJECT MATTER

The Office Action indicates that claims 28-39 contain allowable subject matter. By this Amendment, the features of allowable claim 28 have been added to claim 26. Claim 28 is then canceled. Claims 29, 32 and 33 have been amended to depend from claim 26. In view of these changes, it is believed that all claims are in condition for allowance.

III. PRIOR ART REJECTIONS

The Office Action rejects claim 26 under 35 USC §102(b) over U.S. Patent No. 3,734,500 to Cooper. The Office Action also rejects claim 27 under 35 USC §103(a) over Cooper, in view of U.S. Patent No. 2,115,108 to Horn.

As noted above, the features of allowable claim 28 have been incorporated into claim 26. For at least this reason, it is respectfully submitted that claim 26 is allowable. Claim 27 depends from claim 26 and is allowable for at least the same reasons, and for the additional features which it recites. Accordingly, withdrawal of the rejections is respectfully requested.

IV. CONCLUSION

In view of the foregoing, it is respectfully submitted that the application is in condition for allowance. If the Examiner believes that additional changes would place the application in Reply to December 31, 2008 Final Office Action

better condition for allowance, the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned at the telephone number listed below.

The Commissioner is authorized to charge the undersigned's deposit account #14-1140 in whatever amount is necessary for entry of these papers and the continued pendency of the captioned application.

Respectfully submitted,

NIXON & VANDERHYE P.C.

/John C. Eisenhart/
John C. Eisenhart
Attorney Reg. No. 38,128

901 North Glebe Road, 11th Floor Arlington, VA 22203-1808 Telephone: (703) 816-4000 Facsimile: (703) 816-4100

JCE:knh